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AMERICAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT

617-447-2877

June 25, 1980

The Hon. Edmund S. Muskie
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Muskie:

I am writing you in the hope that you can exert the benign and effective influence of our government to secure the release of Raoul Wallenberg from the Soviet prison system, where--according to considerable circumstantial evidence--he has been suffering for a terrible 3½ decades. As you know, Mr. Wallenberg saved an estimated one hundred thousand lives in Hungary in the closing moments of the Holocaust. Because of his extraordinary actions, he deserves the gratitude of the entire civilized world. Instead, for reasons perhaps known only to Soviet authorities, Mr. Wallenberg has been their prisoner at least since 1945. I can think of no act of historical retribution--to say nothing of humanitarian justice--than for you to do your best to ensure that Mr. Wallenberg be freed from his horrible fate. In this world it seems that the more good one does, the more one is punished. But I hope, Secretary Muskie, that the Department of State can bring this awesome chapter to a happy resolution.

Sincerely,

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